

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 7, 2005

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 26

Introduced by ~~Senator Denham~~ Committee on Agriculture
(Denham (Chair), Ducheny (Vice-Chair), Chesbro, Florez,
Hollingsworth, Maldonado, Ortiz, Poochigian, and Vincent)
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Blakeslee, Canciamilla,
Cogdill, Matthews, Maze, Parra, Salinas, and Vargas)

February 22, 2005

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 26—Relative to National
Agriculture Week and National Agriculture Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 26, as amended, ~~Denham~~ *Committee on Agriculture*. National
Agriculture Week and National Agriculture Day.

This measure would proclaim the week of March 20 to March 26,
2005, as National Agriculture Week and ~~Saturday~~ *Sunday*, March 26
20, 2005, as National Agriculture Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, March 26 20, 2005, is National Agriculture Day,
2 a day set aside to honor the men and women of agriculture, and
3 to promote an understanding of America's agricultural industry;
4 and
5 *WHEREAS, March 15, 2005, is California Agriculture Day, a*
6 *day of celebration to commemorate agriculture's vital role in*
7 *keeping California bountiful and strong.*
8 WHEREAS, California's agricultural production fuels the
9 state's economy and helps feed the nation and the world; and
10 WHEREAS, California agriculture provides a vital
11 infrastructure that aids in the exclusion and early detection of

1 plant and animal pests and diseases that impact our human
2 health, commerce, and environment; and

3 WHEREAS, For approximately 56 consecutive years,
4 California has been the number one agricultural state in the
5 nation, producing more than 350 crop and livestock products and
6 accounting for ~~50~~ 40 percent of the nation's supply of fruits,
7 vegetables, and nuts; and

8 WHEREAS, The tireless efforts of approximately 800,000
9 farm workers have contributed greatly to the success of the
10 agricultural industry; and

11 WHEREAS, With less than 1 percent of California's 33
12 million people engaged in farming and ranching, each
13 agricultural worker today provides for more than 100 other
14 people, compared to just 13 in 1947; and

15 WHEREAS, Today's agricultural industry offers over 200
16 challenging and rewarding career opportunities, from on-farm
17 cultivation, to food science and engineering; and

18 WHEREAS, Over the past 5 decades, advances in production
19 agriculture have resulted in a drop of consumer spending on food
20 ~~consumption products~~ from 24 percent of disposable income in
21 1949 to approximately 9 percent today; and

22 WHEREAS, California is the nation's leader in agricultural
23 exports, annually shipping more than 6.5 billion dollars worth of
24 food and agricultural commodities to ~~countries~~ regions ranging
25 from Europe to Asia, and from Africa to Latin America; and

26 WHEREAS, California's agricultural industry ~~builds on~~
27 ~~centuries of progress by constantly seeking~~ seeks to incorporate
28 the latest scientific and technological production and marketing
29 techniques to meet the demands of changing consumer needs and
30 complex world markets; and

31 WHEREAS, ~~Programs~~ Government-industry partnerships are
32 continually being developed to improve quality and ensure safe
33 handling practices on the farm, in transit, and during processing;
34 and

35 WHEREAS, *"California Grown" is a true public-private*
36 *partnership campaign that was created to work with hundreds of*
37 *stores throughout the state to promote California products. The*
38 *campaign was also created to emphasize our strong ties to the*
39 *land and to our neighbors; to restore pride in our homegrown*

1 *products and our work; and to help our economy and our*
2 *California way of life.*

3 WHEREAS, A broad approach to agricultural education is
4 vital to ensure that California agriculture continues to flourish;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The California 5 A Day For Better Health
7 Campaign, launched in 1988, was the precursor for the National
8 5 A Day Program, which spreads the message that healthy eating
9 through the consumption of fruits and vegetables can reduce the
10 risk of heart disease and cancer by as much as 30 percent; and

11 WHEREAS, As our national and global population grows, it is
12 important to recognize the vital role that agriculture plays in our
13 daily lives; and

14 WHEREAS, It is appropriate for all Californians to recognize
15 our farmers, farmworkers, and others involved in providing such
16 a bounty to our nation and the entire world; now, therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
18 *thereof concurring,* That it takes great pleasure in honoring the
19 men and women of California agriculture for their dedication and
20 productivity by observing the week of March 20 to March 26,
21 2005, as National Agriculture Week and ~~Saturday, March 26~~
22 ~~Sunday, March 20,~~ 2005, as National Agriculture Day; and be it
23 further

24 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
25 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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